Meekly



Rangas Chief.

SOL. MILLER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER. >

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE UNION.

{ TERMS-\$2.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.

VOLUME XVII.—NUMBER 31.8

TROY, KANSAS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1874.

Choice Loetry.

THE LABORING MAN.

BY WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT.

I walked beyond the city bounds,
Along an unfrequented way—
The small, uncultivated grounds
Of poverty before me lay.
A fence of turf the snot surrounds;
The poor, lone cabin was of clay.

Twas souset, and its parting light, With golden lustre, bathed the west, But ascende to linger in its flight, To cheer the Summer day to rest; To gladden laber's weary sight, Like hope within a darkened broast.

It melted till the twilight crept.
With gentle step to kiss the scene.
And the soft breath of evening awept.
Its incease through the foliage green;
The bird had cassed its notes, and alept,
And all was silent and seren.

Aform within the cabin door, In poor and simple gar's array'd; With face of care deep furrowed o'er, Look'd out upon the gath'ring shade. "He never lingored thus before." See sighed, and bitter grief displayed.

A moment more, that face o'creast, Grew radiant with joy's brighter ray. The chouds had gathered—burst—and passed, For he, her only hope and stay, Came hurrying to his home at last, Far down the solitary way.

He came, the man of toil and care,
With brow o'crahadowed by distress—
And met with said, dejected air,
The wife's affectionate careas!
His heart seemed full: What storm was there,
To cause him so much wretchedness?

A word sufficed to tell the tale; A ship from foreign lands away, Had yielded to the swelling sail, And now was anchored in the lay. The eye was moist, the cheek was pale That listened to the laborer's lay.

"Oh, I'm broken-hearted, and my tongue Refuses utterance of what I know: My brain is madden d, and my spirit wrang. While sinks my form beneath this dreadful blow Bear with me, faithful one, while I impart The heavy sorrows of my troubled heart.

"On that fair isle, where our young days were pass'd, A bolt has fallen from God's mighty hand! Upon the forms of men disease is cast, And blight and desslation sear the land; On every side, the wailings of despair Rise from the lips of those who loved us there.

"Dost thou remember where the silver stream Leaps in its wild career the vale along; Where off we've lingered in our Summer dream And filled the air with hope's expectant song! In every cottage on the old hill's side, Some of our we'll beloved friends have died.

"Oh! I can see the pale and haggard face Of her whose hast farewell is ne'er forgot; Who, when she held me in her fast embrace, Invoked a blessing on the laborer's lot. How little dreamed she, when those tear-drops fell. That she would starve, and I 'midst plenty dwell!

"To day these dreadful tidings met my ears, And quick I turned my weekly carnings of The gone, midst choking prayers and burned And, oh! I would to God it had been more. The gene—and in the thought I found relief; It checks the ewelling torrent of my grief."

The laborer ceased: his tale was o'er, His heart unburthened of its care. His heart unborthened of its care; And passing in his humble door. He bent his weary form in prayer. The anguish that his features wore. Was passed, and hope sat smiling there.

God bless the laboring man! "thy bread Is on the far-off waters cast; And He who came to save has said, It shall return to thee at last." The rich shall find no softer bed, Or happier mem'ries in the past. the far-off water

The future, it is full of flowers To Christian hearts, so pure as thine— And may the knowledge of these hours Shed such a blessing upon mine.

Select Storn.

COURTING A SCHOOL MA'AM.

BY H. ELLIOT M'BRIDE.

"Uncle, it is a whim of mine. I am sick and tired of city life, and this gay round of fashion. For-tune hunters are forever besieging me, and I am determined I'll marry none of them. When I marry, the happy man shall be an hones and a good man, and one who loves me for myself alone, not for my fifty thousand."

"And so, my dear, this is why you wish to

leave the city, and become a prim school teacher in that slow old village of Wrentham. You want to marry one of the unsophisticated clod-hoppers, out there, I suppose. Well, you're a queer child; but of course, you shall have your

"You are a dear, kind unele," said the little fairy, as she brushed back the hair from his fore-head, and imprinted a kiss thereon.

head, and imprinted a kiss thereon.

"When do you wish to commence this missionary work of yours?" continued Morton.

"Will you be off by daylight to-morrow, and commence immediately the task of teaching the oung ideas of Wrentham to shoot in the pro-

r direction !"
"No, uncle; I will write to that kind lady friend of yours, Mrs. Hawley, and ask her if she will allow me to sojourn with her for awhile. Then, when I am out at Wrentham, I will have ample time to look around me, and see if I can get an opportunity of filling the office of school mis-tress. And, remember, uncle, I wish to be known out there only as Alice Linville, not as Alice Linville Harper. Mrs. Hawley will humor me, I know; and I hope you will do the same."
"Certainly, birdie: anything to keep peace in the family. Everything shall be arranged as

In three weeks after the conversation above narrated took place, the pretty little Alice found herself scated behind a high desk in the dingy school-room of Wrentham, and surrounded by three or four dozen tow-headed and dirty-faced rchins. For a time she felt that she was out of her undertaking. She plucked up courage however, and went boldly ahead with her work. however, and went boldly ahead with her work, determining that nothing but sickness or death should remove her. In the course of time she came to like her business, and her scholars almost idolized her; this being the case, she progressed "swimmingly." The school, which before had received the name of the "Fighting the manned and allies. Den," was now very much changed; and Alice, as a *eacher, received golden opinions from all

Reader, enter with me the office of a modern Escalapius. Tis a dirty place to go, I know, as the air is perfomed with all kinds of ugly and disagreeable medicines. Harry Benton is there, and we must enter, too, if we would hear his conversation with the young doctor, even Doctor Mark Percival.
"I tell you, Harry, you'll regret it if you mar-

tell you, harry, you'll regret it it you marty her. Take my advice, and don't propose.

This thing of love is all moonshine. She's as
poor as Job's turkey, and makes her living by
school teaching. Even if you could live on love
for a few weeks, you would tire of it after a
while, and would begin to hunger for bread and
beef. Take the advice of a sensible man, and
don't mare until you find a meaning he is all

best. Take the advice of a sensible man, and don't marry until you find a woman who is sole possessor of a small pile of gold."

"Doctor, you and I have been friends from our youth up, and I have invariably found your advice sound and good, but I feel disposed to give no heed to it in the present instance. Just wait until you come across your bright particular star, and you'll grab her, and think yourself happy in getting her, even if she hasn't a red."
"And so you think this Alice Linville is your And so you think this Alice Linville is your bright star—in other words—your fate, or, the right woman. Well, if you do, I suppose you had better go ahead; but really, I wouldn't like to marry a little girl who wields the birchen with the control of the control stick for a living, and who hasn't any wealth but the little amount of calico she carries on hor

"Doctor, I tell you, I don't care for that. I know that I am poor, but I have a strong right arm, able and willing to work. I had rather, I know, should I be successful, be able to take Alknow, should I be successful, be able to take Alice to a splendid home, but if she loves me, she will be willing to share my humble cottage.

A Boston ship builder says that Noal's ark wasn't much of a ship after all, being little better than a barn with the crevices calked up.

But, doctor, I can talk no longer. I must call at Mrs. Hawley's this evening, to see if Alice will accompany met to the sleighing party to-morrow night. I suppose you will be on hand."

"I'll be there—bet high on that; and I'll show

you a star that will quite eclipse your bright particular; and a star, too, that has a golden light which adds new lustre to her beams." "Well, good-bye; and I wish you success in your pursuit of a pile of gold."

One would have thought the whole world was out sleigh riding that evening, to have stood on one of the streets of Wrentham, and listened to the sleigh-bells, as they jingled, and rattled, and crashed, as the forty sleighs, freighted with thier precious burdens of lads and lasses, dashed down

the rock-bound valley of Moss.

The night was frosty; off, so frosty! and the stars twinkled and blinked, as if they also enjoyed the fan of the sleigh-ride; and the horses bounded along, as if prond of being driven in As the sleighs dashed through the village, the

windows were thrown up, doors flung wide open, and the startled people rushed out to see what was the matter. Such a gay procession didn't often break the monotony of the quiet little village, and when it came, in all its grandeur and magnificence, with silvery bells, and laughing boys and girls, it was not to be wondered at, that villagers should be startled and surprised, and that they should drop all, and rush out un-mindful of the biting fresty air.

And the eighty laughing and happy beys and

And the eighty laughing and happy boys and girls were on their way.

The fourth sleigh in the crashing, jingling procession, contained the fair school ma'am, Alice Linville, and the young farmer, Harry Beuton.

The Florenzo Hotel was distant some six or eight miles from Wrentham, and Harry had ample time to tell his tale of love. And while the stars looked down and twinkled with a frosty brilliancy, and the hills around echoed and rechoed with the tinkling of thousands of sleighbells, he did tell his tale of love.

He told her he had loved her since she came amongst them; he told her he was poor, but if she would consent to become his bride, he would ever strive to make her happy; he told her he would strew her path with flowers; and he told her a great many other things it would he reserve to reach

strew her path with flowers; and he told her a great many other things it would be useless to repeat; in fact, he got poetical, and said such queer things as a good many other boys do when they come to the "sticking point."

Alice loved him, and she told him so. She consented to be his wife—she said "yes," in the sweetest tone imaginable; and when she did say yes, it threw Harry into "a spell," and regardless of the lookers on in the sleighs behind, he flung his arms around her, and kissed her half a dozen times. The consequence of this half a dozen times. The consequence of this was, Harry's horse became frightened at the several smacks, and, as Harry couldn't hold the lines and Alice at the same time, the horse ran over a bank, and upset the happy couple into a snow-drift; they were soon picked up, howev-er, nothing serious having occurred, and the proion again shot on at lightning speed toward

As the story writers say, I have little more to Alice informed Harry of her wealth, as they re-

turned that night from the party, and why she had played the part of the school ma'am. Harry broke out again in a joyous spell, but he was careful this time to use but arm in his vehement and delighted gestures. After Alice's school term had expired, she re-turned to the city, and in short time she was married to Harry Benton.

The eyes of the villagers opened wide in astonishment, when the story came out, that Harry Benton had married Alice Linville, and that she was worth fifty thousand dollars.

Harry and Alice are now living on a large farm near the village, and neither of them have yet regretted the bargain they made and scaled that

A NURSERY TALE.

Captian Kidd's Long Sought Treasure Found at the Bottom of Long Island Sound, by the Direction of a Clairvoyant.

On the Jersey side of Staten Island sound, just On the Jersey side of Staten Island sound, just above Elizabethport landing, stands an old dila-pidated rolling-mill, which has been for manyyears untenanted. On Wednesday ovening last, a private watchman employed in a stone-yard in the vicinity, saw a light through the crevices of the shattered building, he cautiously approached and peered within. Scated around a fire he saw three men, who were in deep consulation. Near them were two long dredges and a box. While he stood—there astonished, the three arose, and going to the front entrance immediately over the waters of the sound, decended to a boat, and pulling a dozen yards into the stream, cast an-They then worked away industriously for an hour guided by a lantern. Presently they returned to the building, bringing with them a box or chest filled with black mud. This they spread broadcast on the ground, and commenced searching through it, examining every particle The watchman's curiosity was now thoroughly aroused, and summoning courage, he entered the building and demanded of the mer entered the building and demanded of the men their business. They manifested considerable fright at first, but finally told him that they were searching for Capt. Kidd's buried treasure, and were going according to a clairvoyant's di-rections. They said that they had already found rections. They said that they had aircady found a dozen or more of valuable English pieces of coin, and that if he, the watchman, would keep dark they would give him an equal share of the recovered treasure. He informed the owner of the property yesterday, who, fully alive to the importance of the move, keeps a watchman in the mill every night, and proposes forming a company to further investigate the discovery. It is a fact well known to many of the old resi-cents of Elizabethport, that 18 or 20 years ago a large sum of money was brought up by oyster-men in the vicinity of the mill, and as Capt. Kidd was known to have made his headquar-ters on Staten Island sound during his piratical career, it is surmised that the treasure was bur-ied by him. Several of the accient coins ex-hibited are held as souvenirs by the town peo-

The Grave of Prof. Agassiz.

The Grave of Prof. Agassiz.

In the burial of Prof. Agassiz at Mount Auburn, the sweetest simplicity of the sepultore of Charles Dickens was respected. A cross of brown stone, standing in the centre of the lot, was hid with wreaths of laurel and smilax, interwoven with filles, carnations and camellias. The mound of earth thrown up was also covered with flowers—the sides even being lined with evergreens and floral hangings. Of the burial of Dickens it is said that every person, male and female, who floral hangings. Of the burial of Dickens it is said that every person, male and female, who visited his open grave, and wore a flower—a custom much in vogue in England—had, as if by some instinctive feeling, dropped it in until it was filled, not with bouquets, but with single rose-buds and geraniums. Notwithstanding the unfaltering industry of these two great luminaries of the world of science and literature, each found time to endear himself to both high and low by kind words and gentle acts.—Graphic.

What Constitutes A Car-Load

In general, 20,000 pounds is a car-load, or 70 barrels of salt, 70 of lime, 90 of flour, 60 of whisky, 200 sacks of flour, 6 cords of hard wood, 7 of soft wood, 16 to 18 head of cattle, 45 to 50 head soft wood, 16 to 18 head of cattle, 45 to 50 head of hogs, 80 to 100 head of sheep, 6,000 feet of seasoned boards, 19,000 feet of siding, 13,800 feet of flooring, 40,000 shingles, one-third less of hard lumber, one-fourth less green lumber, one-tenth less of joists, scautling and all other large timber, 340 bushels of wheat, 360 of corn, 680 of oats, 400 of barley, 360 of flax-seed, 360 of apples, 430 of Irish potatoes, 350 of sweet potatoes, 1000 of bran. The foregoing table may not be exactly correct, for the reason that railroads do not exactly agree in their rules and estimates, but it actly agree in their rules and estimates, but it approximates so closely to the general average that shippers will find it a great convenience as a matter of reference.

BAILEY, of the Danbury News, commenced son remarks in a prayer meeting recently, by saying solemnly, "I would not live alway; yet, when I get pretty sick, I always send for the doctor."

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The growth of the State during the past year The growth of the State during the past year has been rapid and continuous, the bulk of immigration having apparently been directed to the western and south-western portions. Ford, Barbour, Harper, Ness, and Commanche Counties, have been organized under the general law. A significant and cheering indication of the future of the State is found in the gradual extension of our frontier limit. The crude and erroneous ideas which formerly prevailed as to the adaptability of a very large proportion of our soil for profitable cultivation—ideas which took form in the earlier reographies and in the rosoil for profitable cultivation—ideas which took form in the earlier geographies and in the romances of early adventurers—have been exploded by the test of actual experience, and individual enterprise has so far extended its operations as effectually to demonstrate the capacity of the State to support with its productions many millions of inhabitants. The history of the nation furnishes no parallel to the rapid growth of our State, whether in population or in the varied evidences of productive wealth. Substantial improvements among the older settlements are not less noticeable than the multiplication of new farms and the establishment of plication of new farms and the establishment of new communities. To this end the enlargement of the means of inter-communication by the con-struction of railways, the increased and increasstruction of railways, the increased and increasing interest manifested in the cause of popular education, and the comparative financial independence, secured by increased production, have largely contributed. The fruits of the labor devoted to the improvement of farms and farm houses; to the planting of trees; to the erection of excellent school buildings, and to the numberless enterprises, general, local and individual, which tend to the advancement of civilization, arrest the attention of the observant visitor, and arrest the attention of the observant visitor, and are full of hope to the thoughtful citizen. Wherein legislation may be made effective in promoting a continuation of such enterprise it is your duty to legislate, as it is the duty of all citizens to encourage it by their influence and example.

THE FINANCIAL CRISIS.

If the progress of our State has been remarka-If the progress of our State has been remarka-bly rapid, it has doubtless been somewhat imped-ed by the financial crisis which has so recently prevailed, and from which we have not yet en-tirely recovered. To the precipitation of this crisis many causes have contributed, the princi-pal among which, pechaps, are the mania for un-profitable railroad building upon borrowed capi-tal, and the absorption of capital through the in-iquitous process of "watering stocks." To such an extent has the system of borrowing upon in-adequate or worthless securities been carried, adequate or worthless securities been carried, that American credit abroad is now utterly pros-trated, except as regards such undoubted securities as are beyond the reach of material deprecation. To these causes of disaster is to be added, in my judgment, the manifest tendency of the ent policy prematurely to hasten the return of specie payments by undue contraction of our present circulating medium. The business interests of the West demand more rather than less currency, and it is to be hoped that Congress will correct the vicious policy which has increased, if it has not directly occasioned, the embarrassments of the country. The monopoly of the national banks ought to be summarily disposed of, and a free banking system established.

STATE FINANCES. The reports of the Auditor and Treasurer exhibit the financial condition of the State. Our total liabilities are \$1,345.490.67, and our resources \$576,878.51. Of our bonded debt, \$835,125 be longs to the permanent school and sinking funds, and is in the vaults of the treasury.

The receipts into the Treasury for the general revenue fund during the past year amount to \$744,856.99, and the expenses of the Government, as appears by the exhibit of warrants issued by the Auditor, \$446,376.76. There has also been paid out, in the redemption of warrants out-standing at the beginning of the last fiscal year, upwards of \$200,000, Jeaving a balance in the Treasury belonging to this fund of \$86,001.16. For the first time since the organization of the State, the year has closed with no warrants ontstanding, and a balance in the Treasury. Since the 20th of January last, our State warrants have been as good as the national currency. It is hoped that our financial interests may be so managed in the future as to continue this condi-tion of affairs. To ensure this, it is necessary that a due regard for economy should be observed in all public matters. Extravagance in public expenditures should at all times be avoided. but it is especially important now, because of the general depression of business and the con-sequent scarcity of money. Measures providing for the expenditure of money should be carefully considered. The appropriation bills cannot be too rigidly secutions.

oo rigidly scrutinized.

A very small proportion of the tax which the people are annually called upon to pay is for State purposes. The levy last year, to supply the general revenue foud, was four mills on the dellar. If it can be reduced below that figure this year, without detriment to the public interest, it should be done.

The manner in which the funds belonging in

the treasury have been kept has been a subject of much discussion. An examination of the re-ports of the Auditor and Treasurer, and the several reports of the board of State officers, whos duty it is to examine into the condition of the Treasury, will give you full information upon

The assessment and collection of taxes to meet the necessary public expenditures should be so regulated by law as to give the greatest possible liberty and accommodation to the citizen consist-ent with a careful regard to sound financial pol-icy. The tax laws contain one provision which erves your early consideration. I refer to the use which provides that all tax sale certificates shall draw interest at the rate of fifty per cent, per annum. To secure the prompt pay ment of taxes is the object sought to be accom-plished by this law. A failure in the collection plished by this law. A failure in the collection of the necessary revenue might seriously cripple our financial credit; hence the necessity for the establishment of a rate of interest which makes it to the advantage of every citizen to pay his taxes promptly when due. The present rate is, however, in my judgment, higher than is necessary, and might with safety be reduced twenty-five per cent. Money is not worth twenty-five per cent, in any legitimate business, and no citizen who has the means with which to pay his tax when due can afford to allow it, drawing intax when due can afford to allow it, drawing in

tax when due can afford to allow it, drawing interest at that rate, to remain unpaid.

Your consideration is called to the feasibility of so changing the law as to make semi-annual payments of taxes optional with the tax payer. The payment of taxes to meet disbursements covering the entire year, is now made in the main, under our arbitrary and exacting system, between the first of November and the tenth of January. The producer is compelled to go into a full market with his products, at an unfavorable season, to obtain money with which to pay his tax, a large portion of which remains in the Treasury, unused, for months. By making the payments semi-annually, say in November and May, and providing for a small discount for full payment in November, the public interest would payment in November, the public interest would be equally well served and protected, and the producer who might desire to take advantage of a spring market, in the disposal of his commodi-ties, would be greatly benefitted.

CUSTODY OF COUNTY FUNDS.

Recent defalcations of County Treasurers have directed attention to the necessity of limiting the now absolute control which the custodians of public funds have over those funds. The subject is a difficult one to deal with. The choice of a persen for Treasurer presupposes a popular belief in his integrity. The exaction of a heavy boud, with apparently adequatesecurity, implies that no loss can possibly accrue to the Treasury. Yet such losses are of frequent occurreuge, and it is seldom that the Treasury is fully reimbursed by the securities. The dispatch of business requires that some degree of confidence should be imposed in public officers. This confidence, however, should not be permitted to take the place of the most rigid safeguards, but should be accompanied by them. All experience proves that that system is the most repressive of theft and peculation which provides the greatest number of checks upon the custodian of public funds. Recent defalcations of County Treasurers have ber of checks upon the custodian of public funds. It is for you to consider what, if any, additional checks should be imposed upon our Treasurers.

It occurs to me that, for instance, a system of duplicate accounts might be devised which would render defalcation impossible without the concurrence of the County Clerk. A rigid examination of the condition of the treasury by properly authorized persons, should be made as often as once a month, and the result, verified by affidavit, made public. It should not be deemed sufficient to show that the accounts are properly kept, and that all the moneys received have been properly entered; but the examination should show that the actual cash is where it is represented to be. It seems to me that such a system, or something approximating to it, would show that the actual cash is where it is accounted to be accounted as the public schools is represented to be. It seems to me that such a system, or something approximating to it, would be prepared to perform.

Commissioners is herewith submitted for your consideration.

THE CONMON SCHOOLS.

The CONMON SCHOOLS.

The CONMON SCHOOLS.

The cause of education continues to receive its done share of attention. New school houses are being erected, new districts formed, and the number in attendance at the public schools is rapidly increasing. The safety of our Republication of the masses of the people. In our government of municipal bonds through the State Treasury should be repealed.

The report of the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture gives evidence of marked programment of municipal bonds through the State Board of Agriculture gives evidence of marked programment of the masses of the people. In our government of the secretary of the State Board of Agriculture gives evidence of marked programment of the masses of the people. In our government of the secretary of the State Board of Agriculture gives evidence of marked programment of the masses of the public schools is rapidly increasing.

The report of the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture gives evidence of marked programment of municipal bonds through the form of the masses of the people. In our government o system, or something approximating to it, would speedily expose irregularities, and render any large defalcation extremely improbable; while it would tend to divide a responsibility too heavy to be borne by a single person.

ASSESSMENT OF RAILROADS The law providing for the assessment, for purposes of taxation, of railroad property, is much complained of. This complaint rests upon the assumption that the law, in its operation, discriminates in favor of the railroad corporations in that it admits of, and results in a valuation of their ways at lower faure, comparatively thair it admits of, and results in a valuation of their property at a lower figure, comparatively, than property employed in other enterprises. In the fifth clause of section seven of the railroad assessment act, approved March 2, 1871, it is pro-vided that "the average gross receipts, per mile, of the road assessed, for the year ending Decem-ber 31, preceding, shall be prima facie evidence of the value, per mile, of such railroad."

r system of taxation this provision is, nably, at variance. The Constitution inquestionably, at variance. The Constitution directs the Legislature to "provide for a uniform and equal rate of assessment and taxation." If we were to adopt the "gross receipts" of all business as a measure of the value of the capital employed therein, we would perhaps, conform to the Constitution; but not so if we, as in the present instance so provide for but or clear of the constitution. ent instance, so provide for but one class of bus

This clause of the law should be repealed for another reason: It is wrong in principle. Leg-islation for the benefit of any particular class of citizens, or any particular interest, to the exclus-ion and detriment of others, is not in harmony with the spirit of the age in which we live, and should not be talegated. should not be tolerated.

With the exception of the clause referred to the statute mentioned seems to have receive

the sanction of the Supreme Court of the State THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS. With the exception of the Penitentiary, the reorganization of the various public institutions, by the appointment of new Boards of Regents and Trustees, was provided for by the Legislature at its last session. The officers mentioned in the act were duly appointed, and the reorganization of the institutions was perfected early in ization of the institutions was perfected early in April. Under the management of these Boards the institutions have been in operation nine months, and I am now gratified to be able to say that the core exercised in making the appoint-ments was not misapplied.

STATE UNIVERSITY.

This institution continues to prosper, and is growing in influence and public favor. During the past year the University graduated its first class. The total number in attendance during the year was 239. Students were present from wenty-nine Counties in the State, and from thirteen States of the Union. The University is an honor to the State, and with a wise and liber-al State policy, is destined to become one of the first educational institutions of the country.

The reports of the Roard of Regents and other officers are submitted for your consideration.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. This institution has started on a new caree The newly appointed Regents propose to make it what Congress, in providing its endowments, contemplated it should be—a practical school, where agriculture and the mechanic arts are taught. An increased interest in the institution of industrial education has many enthusiastic of industrial concation has many channels friends in Kansas, who hope to see demonstrated, in the success they predict for the present management of the Agricultural College, the practicability of the system and the good results

which, they claim, should flow from it to the laboring classes. Regents report that "the present buildings are wholly inadequate," and that "the time has come when prudence and conomy, as well as honor, and a just regard for the interests of the industrial classes of Kansas, imperatively call for the immediate erection of public build-ings and shops."

Those in charge of this institution have un-

dertaken a great work, and it is hoped that they may receive proper encouragement from the Leg-

The Regents of the State Normal School at Emporia, report the number of students in at-tendance during the year at 218, against 190 for the previous year. Twenty-eight Counties of the State have been represented at this school, and students have been present from nine differ-out States. ent States.

cut States.

The Leavenworth Normal School has had en-rolled in its classes, 99, and 900 have been in at-tendance at the model school connected with it. Sixteen Counties in Kansis are represented in this institution, and the names of students from Missouri, Illinois. Ohio, New York and Pennsyl-

vania are found on its rolls.

The success of the Normal Schools speaks well for their management.

INSANE ASYLUM. The Trustees of the Insane Asylum report 121 patients in that institution. The present building affords accommodation for but 80 patients, and, in endeavoring to care for the unfortunate ones who apply for admission, those in charge have allowed the Asylum to become unduly have allowed the Asylum to become unduly crowded. Many have, however, been refused admission for want of room, and the Trustees report that there are more than two hundred insane people in the State, for whose accommedation there is no provision. Nothing more need be said to show the necessity for action, by you, in providing for additional room in this institution. It is a shame that it has been so long neglected.

DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM.

The average attendance at the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, for the past year, has been 60. There are 52 pupils now in attendance, and 77 have been enrolled during the year.

The new building provided for by the last Legislature is nearly completed, and will, it is anticipated, be ready for occupancy by the first of February. The appropriation for that purpose has been judiciously and economically expended.

BLIND ASYLUM.

The Trustees report the Blind Asylum in a prosperous condition. The number of pupils is rapidly increasing. There are ample accommo-dations, however, for all who are likely to be present for several years.

PENITENTIARY. The Warden reports 350 convicts in the Penitentiary. Of this number 147 were received since the last report. Seventy-five boys, ranging from 15 to 20 years of age, have been inmates of this institution during the year. The Penitentiary is not a situable place for these young malefactors. They should be sent to a House of Correction or Reform School, and I hope the Legislature will, ere long, provide for such an institution.

uch an institution.

There has been some doubt as to the power of There has beer some doubt as to the power of the Directors to let, by contract, the labor of the convicts. The experience of other States proves that the contract system is the best. In some instances, where penitentiaries have been here-tofore a heavy burden upon the commonwealth, by the adoption of this system they are made to yield to the State a large revenue.

I recommend the passage of a law which shall give to the Board of Directors of the Penitentiary the power to let, by contract, the convict labor.

lalor.

The law for the reorganization of the State institutions also provides for the creation of a commission to visit and examine them. The Commissioners, consisting of Hon. J. C. Wilson, C. S. Brodbent, Esq., and Hon. Charles Puffer, have devoted much time and labor to the performance of the duty imposed upon them by the law. Their labor has been productive of much good, and the wisdom of the Legislature in providing for the appointment of the Commissioners has been amply demonstrated. The report of the

THE COMMON SCHOOLS.

The cause of education continues to receive its dne share of attention. New school houses are being erected, new districts formed, and the number in attendance at the public schools is rapidly increasing. The safety of our Republican institutions depends mainly upon the education of the masses of the people. In our government the voter is the ruler. He unkes the laws and executes them. It is of the first importance, therefore, that he should be prepared to perform his duties in an intelligent manner. The education of the masses of the people is the education tion of the masses of the people is the education of the governing powers of the nation. The degree of intelligence which prevails in that governing power is felf in every branch of the governing power is felf in every branch of the government. The action of the Legislature is but the ccho of it-instice is administered by it. It is exceedingly gratifying, therefore, to note the progress made in our State in the cause of popu-

The Superintendent of Public Instruction re-ports 4,004 school districts, an increase during the year of 555; 121,630 persons enrolled in the public schools, an increase of 15,027; 3,133 school houses, an increase of 696; the value of school ouses, \$3,468 955 00, an increase of \$563,682 42. The interest bearing scenrities belonging to the permanent school fund now amount to \$1,003,-686 99; \$244,586 00 of this amount has been added to this fund during the past year.

FIVE PER CENT, ON SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS. There has been received from the General Government, during the past year, under the fifth clause of the third section of the Act of Congress admitting Kansas into the Union, the sum of \$40,615 87. This money has been turned into the Treasury, and added to the permanent

school fund of the State. An equitable construction of the law leads to the conclusion that there is now due from the United States to this State, under the clause of the act of admission above referred to, a large sum of money. The act provided that we should receive five per cent. of the public lands within the State, thereafter to be sold. The general land office has allowed the State its per cent., on the sale of such lands only as are sold for cash, through the various land offices the presents of through the various land offices, the proceeds of which goes into the Treasury of the United States. I insist that the law admits of an interpretation very different from that placed upon it by the land office—that the term "public lands," as used in the act of admission, includes all Indian lands which have been, by the General Government, sold and automate. The amount which ernment, sold and patented. The amount which would accrue to the State, if my view of the law should prevail, has not been ascertained, because of the inability of the Secretary of the Interior, on account of an insufficient clerical force, to furnish a list of the Indian lands sold within the

State. The sum would, however, be quite large. There are those who believe that the law, lib-erally construed, iccludes the lands within the limits of the State entered under military land warrants. A movement is in progress in several of the Western States where a similar provision of the law applies, having for its object its recovery from the General Government, under this

covery from the General Government, under this construction of the law, and they have provided for the employment of attorneys to prosecute the claim in the proper Departments, and, if necessary, in the courts.

The amount involved in the decision of these questions will insure a vigorous resistance and strong opposition, and the collection of the claim will be attended with difficulty. To the end that the claim may be properly presented and prosecuted, and that Kansas may co-operate with her sister States, I recommend the passage of a joint resolution authorizing the employment of joint resolution anthorizing the employment of an attorney to prosecute such claim. The reso-lution should provide that the attorney employ-ed by virtue thereof should receive no compensation for his services, until the final determina case of recovery by the State.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

my message of last year, the attention the Legislature was directed to a number of de feets in the fundamental law of the State, and the passage of an act submitting to the people a proposition for a Constitutional Convention was recommended. That recommendation is now re-peated. The Constitution is, in many particu-lars, inconsistent with itself. Its defects are un-merous—too numerous to justify a belief that they can be cured by amendment, in the ordina-

MUNICIPAL BOXDS

A wise provision of the Constitution limits the public debt to a mere nominal figure when the public debt to a mere nominal figure when compared with our resources, present and prospective. The benefits which have accrued from that provision will be shared by those who are to come after us. It has been a frequent subject of complaint that, with resources comparatively undeveloped and in a period of infage, we have attempted too much; that our public we have attempted too much; that our public institutions are too numerous and costly; and that by means of excessive taxation we have anticipated the necessities of the future. If such has been the tendency under our present system, it may readily be conjectured how greatly that tendency would have been aggravated under a system which permits an unlimited issue of public searching.

Unhappily the Constitution has imposed no such restraint upon the various local organiza-tions. Bonds have been voted without stint for public improvements of divers character, but mainly to aid in the construction of railways. In many cases they have been issued unnecessamainly to aid in the construction of railways. In many cases they have been issued unnecessarily; in many the proceeds have been misapplied; while all have been subjected to a heavy discount in negotiation; so that the sum of their proceeds devoted to the works for which they were intended has fallen far short of the total amonnt upon which the tax payers are compelled to pay interest, and also provide a sinking fund for the ultimate redemption of the principal. The extent to which this system of voting bonds has been carried may properly be characterized as reckless in the extreme. Financial embarrassment and impared credit are the inevitable results. Nor do the evil consequences stop here. The favorite argument for voting bonds is that such a policy will hasten settlement and promote dovelopment; while the other consideration, that high taxes keep away the very class of people we most need—those with capital—is generally altogether lost sight of. At the best, the system is one of legalized confiscation, and the people are to be congratulated that it is fast falling into disrepute.

Connected with this general subject are four

falling into disrepute.

Connected with this general subject are four special considerations to which your attention should be directed:

special considerations to which your attention should be directed:

First—The Courts have held that bonds in the hands of innocent holders are valid, no matter how widely or fraudulently the stipulated conditions precedented to their issae were departed from. The people are, therefore, held both for principal and interest, even though, by failure of the conditions, no warrant remained for their issue and negotiation. Severe penalties should be provided for the punishment of local officers or other persons entrusted with any duty connected with the issue of bonds, who shall neglect such duty, or who shall in any respect vary the conditions upon which such bonds were voted.

Secondly—I carnestly recommend such an amendment of the general laws on the subject as will restrain any County, Township or city, from incurring a bonded indebteduess in excess of five per cent. of its assessed valuation.

Third—The sinking fund which has accumulated for the redemption of bonds should be profitably employed. At present this fund remains in the various treasuries, or is employed in private speculations: in either event it draws no interest. The law should require it to be invested in the bonds of the various municipalities, purchased at the lowest market rate, preference being given to those particular bonds for

vested in the bonds of the various mulcipar-ties, purchased at the lowest market rate, pref-erence being given to those particular bonds for the redemption of which the fund is provided for. erence being given to those particular bonds for the redemption of which the fund is provided for. Fourth—The State Treasurer suggests some difficulties in the way of the execution of the law of 1872, which provides for the payment of manicipal bonds, and the interest thereon, through the State Treasury. The law has not been generally observed, the payment of interest, expept in a comparatively few cases, having been paid by the County Treasurers. Under the tax laws County Treasurers make their semi-annual settlements with the State Treasurer on the 20th of January and the first of July, while the interest on these bonds is generally made payable on the first of January and July. If the law

AGRICULTURE.

The report of the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture gives evidence of marked progress in this, the leading industry of the State. The farmers are devoting especial care and attention to the growth and breeding of stock. They find this to be much more profitable than any other branch of Agriculture. Raising corn for exportation is not a remunerative business. Thirty cents per bushel is the average price at which the corn crop has been sold during the past year, and this, it is found, will scarcely pay for the labor required in its production; whereas, even at the present low quotations, it can be made to realize for the farmer, by being fed to stock, from fifty to sixty cents per bushel.

It is cause for congratulation that attention is

It is cause for congratulation that attention is being directed to the importance of a more diversified production. Many crops, but a few years since entirely unknown to the State, are now being successfully produced here. Handsome profits are being realized from the cultivation of cotton, herm, flav seed, tolored. ton, hemp, flax reed, tobacco, and castor beans.

Agriculture is the chief occupation of our people, and should receive your fostering care.

MANUFACTURES.

A variety of concurring causes render it certain, as I have already intimated, that Kansas will be ranked in the future, as she is at the present time, as essentially an agricultural and stock producing State. While this is undeniably true, it is equally certain that the State is not without numerous, varied and admirable fa-cilities for many branches of manufacture. Our coal beds are inexhaustible; water power is abundant; sait, gypsnin, fire clay, ochre and lead are found in many portions of the State. A prolific soil guarantees ample production and comparatively cheap rates of living. It is true that manufacturing enterprises of encouraging magnitude and variety, have been established in different localities, but the progress made in this direction has not been so rapid as it should have been. Many of the articles which are now imported from other States, and from foreign countries, could be profitably manufactured here, and the purchase money kept at home. This is particularly true of the large and constantly growing class of farming implements, for which the demand, already large, must continue to increase with the progress of estiment and sultivation. with the progress of settlement and cultivation. This interest deserves, and will, I doubt not, re-ceive your enlightened consideration.

GEOLOGICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY. It has been urged, with much force and jus tice, that our resources, especially those valua-ble ores which underlie the surface of the earth, have not been sufficiently made known, and that consequently but limited investments have been made for their development. It occurs to me that a thorough geological survey, the results to be printed and widely circulated, would contribnte largely to the remedying of this defect. It has been suggested, also, that an official survey of and reliable report upon the available water-power of the State could be procured at a moderpower of the State could be procured at a moder-ate cost, and would prove highly advantageous in every respect. I recommend the subject to your earnest attention. Prudent economists will not neglect the faints in praiseworthy zeal for the present interests of a great commonwealth.

MENNONITES AND FEIENDS You have been made acquainted with the fact that a considerable number of Mennonites from other States and from foreign countries are set-tling in the southwestern portion of this State. The belief, religious and general, of this merito-rious class of persons assimilates very closely, I am informed, to that entertained by members of am informed, to that entertained by members of the Society of Friends. They ask that the law be so amended that they be relieved from mili-tary duty without the payment of any fine or penalty. It is hoped that large accessions may be made to the number of these worthy settlers, and it may properly be considered whether any class of people who are conscientiously opposed to the bearing of arms should be compelled to pay an onerous tax to be relieved therefrom. It strikes me as incongruous that sincere religious convictions should be made taxable by our laws.

REFORM IN LEGISLATION. It has been usual to fritter away a greater por tion of the session of the Legislature, and then crowd through the business during the last few days. The disposition to legislate is concurrent with the desire to be paid for it; and as the end of the fifty days to which payment is limited draws near, members begin to think of their re-turn home, and measures of importance are crow-ded through with inordinate haste, under a susded through with nordinate haste, under a sus-pension of the rules. These reach the Gover-nor in such profusion during the closing hours that he cannot even read, much less consider, a large portion of them, and is therefore compelled to exercise an unusual degree of faith, or by withholding his approval render nugatory much legislative labor. It is in this way, too, that incongruous, ungrammatical, immature, and of-ten dangerous measures creep into the statute books. All important legislation should be eutered upon during the early days of the session tered upon during the early days of the session, and perfected as rapidly as is consistent with the requisite deliberation. Each day wasted, and each day which the session is innecessarily extended, costs the people five hundred dollars. I have determined hereafter to approve no bill which I have not had ample opportunity to read

BIENNIAL SESSIONS I renew my recommendation that a proposed amendment to the Constitution providing for biennial sessions of the Legislature be submitted to the people. The system gives entire satisfaction in the States where it is in force, and as it would relieve the people of a large expense, I think we ought to adopt it. In cases of emer-gency the Legislature could be convened by the proclamation of the Governor, as is now provi-ded, while an additional provision might be made for adjourned sessions when necessary. We are burdened with too much legislation. We are burdened with too much legislation. The enactments of one session are scarcely brought to the attention of the people at large before they are repealed, or amended beyond recognition. Biennial sessions would dispense with much useless legislation, and give to the people a more general knowledge of the laws.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS. It will be your duty to divide the State into It will be your duty to divide the State into three Congressional districts. This duty is imperative, because we will not be permitted, under the legislation of Congress, to elect Representatives upon a general ticket hereafter. The dirticts ought to be established, not alone with a view to present equality of population, but, as the division now made must stand until after the apportionment based upon the census of 1880, with regard also to population in the near future. The conflicting claims of candidates and localities have postpoued the work for two seslocalities have postponed the work for two ses-sions; they should not have a feather's weight

SHAGE CEDED LANDS.

ORAGE CEDED LANDS.

The controversy in regard to the title to the Osage Ceded Lands is not yet settled. This tract of land, comprising nearly 1,000,000 of acres, was by treaty proclaimed, on the 21st of January, 1807, ceded to the United States. The treaty provides that the "lands shall be surveyed and sold under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, on the most advantageous terms, for cash, as public lands are surveyed and sold under the existing laws—including any act grant-Interior, on the most savantageous terms, for cash, as public lands are surveyed and sold nuder the existing laws—including any act granting lands to the State of Kanasa in aid of the construction of a railroad through said lands—but no pre-emption claim or homestead settlement shall be recognized." The land was eagerly sought after, and every quarter-section soon had its occupant. There seemed to be no question as to the policy which the Government would pursue in disposing of the land. It was contended by the representatives of the Government, as well as the settlers, that the land should be sold as provided in the treaty, on the most advantageous terms, for cash. The policy of granting lands to actual settlers only had at that time many friends in Congress, and its early adoption by the Government appeared centain; hence the conclusion by the settlers that when the land should be offered for sale the Government would be inclined to favor those who

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had gone there, in good faith, to settle and makes their homes; and hence the expenditure of labor and money by the settlegs in the improvement of their farms, the building of houses, cultivation of orchards, and establishment of schools.

Since these settlements and improvements the Secretary of the Interior has decided that a large proportion of this land belongs to the Leavenworth, Lawrence & Galveston Railroad Company, and the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway Company, under their respective grants from Company, under their respective grants from Congress of March 31, 1863, and July 26, 1866. The acts of Congress making these grants were passed before the ratification of the treaty, and both contained provisions, to the effect that all lands prior thereto reserved for any purpose hatever should be excepted from the operations of the respective sets, except so far as it might be necessary to hearts the restriction. tions of the respective mets, except so far as it might be necessary to locate the routes of such roads through such reserved lands. Thus, notwithstanding the positive prohibitions in the acta of Congress, and in seeming defiance of the provision of the treaty which requires that it shall be sold for eash, about 600,000 acres of this body of land, occupied and improved by actual settlers have been potential to the little.

tilers, have been patented to the railroad com-panies without any consideration whatever.

The settlers claim that the grants never at-tached to the Osage Ceded Lands; that the pat-ents issued to the railroad companies should be vacated; and that the lands should be sold, as provided in the treaty, on the most advantageous, terms, for eash. erms, for eash.

terms, for eash.

The growth and prosperity of that part of the
State immediately affected are, by reason of this
controversy, being seriously retarded, and it is
of the utmost importance to the entire State that
the dispute should be speedily and difinitely settled. The sottlers cannot enter the courts for the purpose of inquiring into the validity of the patents issued to the railroad companies, and I am unable to see how this, the real question in the controversy, is to be determined, except by a suit in behalf of the Government of the United States. On the 2d of September last, I addressed a communication to the President, in which I called his attention to this land controversy, and asked him to intercede in behalf of the settlers and the State, to the end that such suits might be brought to the Federal courts for the purpose of testing the legality of the claim of the rail-road companies to the lands in question. The

suggestions contained in the letter were allowed to go unheeded, and no such suits have been rought.
It is estimated there are more than twenty It is estimated there are more than twenty thousand people on the disputed lands. The courts of the country are, for the purpose of controversy, closed against them, and will be closed unless the Government of the United States should come to their relief. To conclude that these people are to be deprived of their homes without having first had an opportunity to test the legal questions involved, before the properly constituted judicial tribunals of the country, is to arraign the Government as a flagrant oppressor and wrong doer. I am not prepared for such a conclusion, but, on the contrary, believe that Congress will, if properly appealed to by you, adopt such legislation as will result in a final settlement of this troublesome controversy by the properly constituted courts.

the properly constituted courts.

THE DEBENTURE LAW. The law passed at the last session of the Legislature "to provide for the incorporation of sav-ings and trust companies," commonly known as the debenture law, contains some very objection-able features, and should be repealed.

MORTGAGE EXEMPTION. No attention has been paid by the various assessors to the act of exempting mortgages from taxation. A careful examination of the question satisfies me that the law is in conflict with the provisions of the constitution, and therefore

ecommend its repeal.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION. mication from Hon. John A. Martin United States Centennial Commissioner for Lan sas, and Hon, Geo, A. Crawford, alternate Com sas, and Hon. Geo. A. Crawford, alternate Com-missioner, recommending the creation of a State Board by the Legislature, to co-operate with them in securing for the State a proper represen-tation of its resources at the Centennial Inter-national Exhibition to be held at Philadelphia in 1876, is herewith laid before you. The commun-ication contains many valuable suggestions, and it is hoped that it may receive that considera-tion which the importance of the subject of which it treats seems to demand.

SENATORIAL ELECTIONS. On the 4th of March last, Hon. Alexander Cald-

On the 4th of March last, Hon. Alexander Caldwell tendered his resignition as United States Senator form this State, and on the 26th day of November I appointed Hon. Robert Crosier to serve in his stead until the filling of the vacancy by the Legislature. Although this duty is devolved upon you exclusively, the subject suggests considerations which may be appropriately noted by the Excentive.

While the election of a Senator is an important matter, it cannot justly be said that the subject has not received at least its due share of attention in this State. Indeed, if the progress and issue of our several Senatorial contests had been in just accord with the degree of popular solicitude which they have evoked, we should have reasons for congratulation additional to those conceded to us to day. Thoroughly united and vigorously directed, the predominant public sentiment of the State would have averted results which we have ample reason to deplore. But timent of the State would have averted results which we have ample reason to deplore. But unity of purpose and a common direction of effort have not usually prevailed, and the issua has been left to be decided by the superior energy of this, or the unworthy acts of that faction. Important as the proper choice of a Senator may be justly considered, it is by no means of paramount consequence. The beneficial results of judicious, or the consequences of bad legislation, may be fraught with a more enduring influence upon the welfare of the State than the success of the best or worst candidate for Senator. It of the best or worst candidate for Senator. It follows, therefore, that there must be a certain degree of unhealthfulness in the political atmosthere where the mere pendency of a Senatorial contest is permitted to dwarf nearly every other

consideration.

If the popular effervescence were confined within reasonable limit, it would not challenge such unqualified coademnation. But its fountain ascens to be perennial. The election of a Senator has served hitherto merely to intensify popular anxiety and stimulate new hopes. The termination of one coatest is thus merely preliminary to another, and a continuous broil, to which the vital interests of the State are often made subsidy, is the unhappy consequence. Individual ambition, always contagious, in such an atmosphere becomes epidemic, and corruption dividual ambition, always contagious, in such an atmosphere becomes epidemic, and corruption issues from it as certainly as mia-ma from a morrass. When public opinion shall have reached the conclusion that the chief purpose of a great commonwealth is not the creation of United States Scuators, and that a Semator, whether for six years or "sixty days," can neither absolutely insure or scriously impede its progress, conflicting aspirations will be adjusted with more dignity, and doubtless with greater regard to the public interest.

ing aspirations will be adjusted with more dignity, and doubtless with greater regard to the public interest.

In a former message I aunounced myself in favor of the cicction of United States Senators by the people, and I now recommend that you memorialize Congress to initiate the necessary measures to that end. The experience of the was legislatures are practically a bar to the employment of corrupt appliances. In like manner the unworthy arts successfully used for the control of a Legislature would be used for the control of a Legislature would be used in vain against the whole body of the people. If it be urged that, in such case, the choice of Sanators would be remitted to political conventions, where corrupt infinences would still produce unwhelesoms results, it is only necessary to reply that there is nothing in the code of morals which would warrant or justify any political party in ratifying the biguiers or offenses of its representatives; hence an appeal would lie from a containing influence of Senatorial contests. When the dissociation of legislation and the contaminating influence of Senatorial contests. When the dissociation of legislation and the contaminating influence of Senatorial contests. When the dissociation of legislation and the contaminating influence of Senatorial contests. When the theory expense of needlessly when when the contaminating influence of Senatorial contests. When the leavy expense of needlessly protracted sessions has been added to the burdens of the proposition.